APPENDIX G.

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS OF THE DEWAN AT THE MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY ON THE 26TH OCTOBER 1915.

GENTLEMEN,

The work of the session is over. We have considered in all about four hundred subjects including those entered in the supplemental list furnished by the Assembly after the opening day of the session. Some twenty-five or thirty of these subjects being very important were fully discussed. I will now briefly indicate the views and present intentions of Government in regard to most of these.

I must premise my observations with an expression of regret for being obliged to curtail the discussion on some of the subjects. Had I not done so, it would not have been possible to complete our work to-day.

It was also a matter of much regret to me that, on account of financial exigencies, a great many of the requests of members, which involved additional expenditure, had to be refused.

The question of the relations between the inamdars and tenants, about which you made a representation last year, was considered by a committee and their report is already in your hands. But in the light of the further views now expressed by you, the subject will be again examined either by the same, or by an enlarged committee or commission.

In the matter of remuneration to village servants, *viz.*, *totis* and *talaris*, in the Nandidurg Division, Government have come to certain conclusions which they hope to announce shortly. The present idea, as suggested by some of the members themselves, is to collect *miras* at a rate based on the assessment payable by the ryots.

The reduction of the irrigable area below tanks which have silted up will receive attention during the year. A beginning will be made by taking up a few selected tanks in the Kolar District for investigation. Our resources and establishment are not adequate to enable us to undertake this work on any very large scale at once.

In regard to Amrut Mahal kavals, Government are willing to throw open for cultivation as much land as possible, after retaining enough for the requirements of the department.

The question of the separation of the executive and judicial functions is one on which there is not much difference of opinion, on principle, between you and the Government. The Chief Judge is in favour of the proposal and we hope to make a beginning as soon as we see our way to provide the necessary funds.

The Rev. Mr. Gulliford enquired whether Government proposed to charge fees in primary schools. On the whole, I think, it is better to recover fees from children whose parents are able to bear the charge than forego the further expansion of education which such additional income would provide. During the past few years, Government expenditure on education has gone up by leaps and bounds, *i.e.*, from about Rs. 8 lakhs to over Rs. 20 lakhs. We want every available rupee for the further extension of education. It is true in certain other advanced countries, primary and even higher education is free. But we have not their resources. The expenditure on primary education in those countries bears, unlike in Mysore, a very small proportion to their total resources.

We are actively investigating the question of a railway connection to a suitable port on the West Coast. As soon as the Mysore-Arsikere Railway is completed, other lines will be taken up, one by one, to expand our internal railway system. It is the desire of His Highness' Government to work the railways ourselves and, as far as possible, with the aid of trained local men.

In the matter of railway thefts, I would suggest that every authenticated case may be brought to the notice of the Railway Secretary and the Inspector-General of Police. I feel sure that the higher officers of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company and the British Police will help to bring the offenders to book and remove this long standing grievance of the Mysore public.

The specific proposal to extend medical relief into the interior of the taluks, which was recommended by so many members of this Assembly, will receive attention in the coming year.

There were two or three complaints in connection with the resettling of the raiyats drowned out by the Cauvery Reservoir. In working out a scheme of this magnitude, it is impossible to avoid stray cases of inconvenience or hardship. Any genuine individual grievance will receive immediate consideration from our officers if brought to their notice.

The extension of the benefits of the State Life Insurance Scheme to the non-official public has been urged in this Assembly for several years past. You will be glad to learn that His Highness the Maharaja has been graciously pleased to sanction the extension, subject to reasonable limitations.

The difficulties connected with the School Final Examination appear to be very real and we learn from the papers that the Syndicate of the Madras University are themselves giving attention to the matter. The State will do what it can, in conjunction with the University, to minimise the hardships brought to notice.

The general wish of this assembly was in favour of the retention of the scheme of religious instruction in our schools. Government have no desire to disturb existing arrangements. If possible, the present arrangements will be improved by providing for business education in addition.

His Highness' Government are aware of the urgent need that exists for a proper piped water-supply in several important towns in the State. They are prepared to give the usual help as soon as satisfactory proposals are received. They are also willing to stretch a point and give special aid to places like Chitaldrug where exceptional difficulties exist in this respect.

His Highness the Maharaja was pleased to state, at a recent function at Seringapatam, that his Government would give all reasonable help to improve that town. The wants of the town will be once more investigated with a view to give full effect to His Highness' wishes.

The subject of Local Self-Government has already been dealt with in my Address and active steps will be taken to introduce a scheme developed by the Committee presided over by Mr. M. Kantaraj Urs. Government trust that the public will heartily co-operate with them in giving practical effect to the scheme.

Government were gratified to receive the testimony of the members that the Malnad Improvement Scheme is making steady progress. There will always be defects and difficulties when a new scheme is started. We look to the representatives of the public to help us to remedy them.

As regards the Village Improvement Scheme, I have watched the progress made and the enthusiasm which the officers and the public have shown in furthering the intentions of Government. I have visited numerous villages; the many proofs of the capacity and enthusiasm which the people have shown in this work are gratifying in the highest degree.

Many of the members raised the question of the levy of a cess in lieu of personal service from recalcitrant villagers in connection with communal work due from them for half a day in the week. Government intimated last year that they wanted to work the scheme, for some time at least, on a voluntary basis relying on the enthusiasm of the people themselves. Athough the proposal to levy a cess was approved by a majority of the members, Government are not in favour of introducing compulsion at once. The question will however receive reconsideration if the proposal meets with more unanimous support next year.

I have already informed you that Government are prepared in future sessions of this Assembly to consider twenty-five supplementary questions if they are of general public importance and put forward with the approval of a majority of the members of this Assembly.

The requests made by members from the Hassan and Bangalore Districts for bridges over the Hemavati at Gorur and the Arkavati at Kankanhalli have been graciously sanctioned by His Highness the Maharaja. Both projects will, I hope, be put in hand in the coming year.

You wanted a separate session for discussing the budget. The State Budget does not undergo any very appreciable variation from year to year. Any suggestions you may make now can be considered a few months hence, *i.e.*, about April next, when we begin to frame the budget for the following official year. Any minor suggestions involving variations in expenditure of Rs. 2 or 3 lakhs can be easily given effect to even after the budget is formally sanctioned. The necessary rules for the discussion of the budget in this Assembly will issue before the next session.

Our chief difficulties in arranging for a second session are the unwieldy character of the Assembly and the dislocation of public work which would ensue by withdrawing heads of departments and district officers from their duties a third time in the year.

The Assembly has been doing very good work in bringing deficiencies in the administration and grievances and wants of the people to notice. By long practice, it has learnt to do this work to perfection.

There are numerous other subjects touching vital matters in our civic and public life which require attention if our progress is to be more rapid. Some twenty of these have been brought to your notice. Their number might be easily increased to two hundred if only we had workers enough in the country to take them up. Economic subjects are placed in the forefront of our programme because the primary wants of the people claim our first attention. There are many other subjects awaiting suitable organization to deal with; subjects for instance like municipal government, town-planning, encouragement of art and literature, improving discipline and social amenities in towns and villages. As no organization exists to make the people even to think about these subjects, it is no wonder that our earning power and working efficiency should be so low.

Government expect every citizen to be a worker. If, in addition to being this, he gives a portion of his time, energy or money for public work either on behalf of the town or village in which he resides or of the State, as a whole, he will be making himself doubly useful. No subject of His Highness in this State should be content to remain a spectator.

It is also important that the members of this Assembly and the public should keep themselves well posted with public affairs and with the means and resources of Government. That is why we ask you to discuss the budget. If the representatives of the public know what requests are feasible and what are not and put forward well-considered proposals in which all aspects of a question have been previously considered, the work of compliance with them will be rendered easy.

You have placed before Government some four hundred subjects. Many of them require additional funds. You have not suggested any new taxation; there is no proposition in which you offer co-operation or help of any sort on behalf of the people. I may remind you that there are countries in which people hand over, in some shape or other, over 30 per cent of their net earnings to their Governments to be spent on the public administration and the development work of their country.

The tendency of the public in the past has been to ask for a great deal more than Government can give. I hope, in future, there will be both give and take, and mutual trust and co-operation between the officials and the representatives of the non-official public. It is only when Government officers and the public begin to see eye to eye and supplement each other's efforts that good administration and the permanent prosperity of the country as a whole will be promoted.